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Newsletter

Number 26

17 September 2010



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

- .. to all of those parents, grandparents, neighbours and friends who attended our Marz performances.
- .. those who helped out with this week's Rippa Rugby tournament.
- .. parents for your support over this busy term.

People of the week

- .. Brooke who received "Player of the Year" for her Kamo soccer team.
- .. Hayden received a certificate for being a "Focused Player" in JB1. Well done Hayden.
- .. Jared received "Sportsman of the Year" in JB3.
- .. Abbey received "Player of the Day" for her E Grade Ruatangata Hockey team.
- .. Jordan received "Most Improved Player" for his B Grade Boys Hockey team.

Road Safety

In response to rising concerns about vehicle speed and pedestrian traffic, each junior child who walks to/from a bus stop has been given a Hi Viz vest (Courtesy of Fonterra). Parents of the junior children are encouraged to wait at the side of the road with their child in the morning and/or, if this is not possible, ensure they are wearing their vest. This could be a small but significant way to improve the safety of these children near roads travelled by adults who do not always drive responsibly. Please also take note of driver behaviour (especially in the vicinity of the Ruatangata village) and report any incidences of unsafe driving (with details) to the school or directly to the police.

Virtue - DILIGENCE

We have decided to acknowledge every child who participated in this week's Marz production as exemplifying the diligence virtue. We were enormously proud of these children who certainly rose to the challenge. Watch this space for the names of other children demonstrating extreme "diligence" in their lives.

think... SOLD!

think yellow,
think...

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Coming up

22 September	Senior Abseiling Day - A.H. Reed Park
22 September	Northland Cross Country Championship
24 September	Final day of term
11 October	First day of term 4
22 October	Calf Club Day

Calf Club Day - 22nd October 2009

You need to start thinking now if your child/ren want to rear calves and lambs. Calves must be born after 1st July 2008. Calves are judged on rearing and leading. Lambs are judged on rearing, leading & calling. For those who bring pets, a booklet will be handed out prior to the September school holidays & needs to be completed by 15 October. No dogs are allowed to be entered. If you have any queries about calves please call Steve Martin on 433 5061, or about lambs to Alison Faithfull on 433 5557. There will be further updates closer to the end of term. To assist you with selection, care and training of your pet, please check out the following website www.calfclub.co.nz

If you need lambs phone Murray or Sue Ph 4322475, \$30 each.

Home Gardens

Our home gardeners met this week to answer questions and share ideas - we also visited our school garden. A special well done to those children who are growing their plants from seeds - some children tell us they are sprouting already. If children have not already done so they should have established a suitable location for their garden (with plenty of sunlight, water and drainage), their compost should be up and running, and they should have given thought to pest control (organic if possible). We suggest that (depending on plant) seedlings might be added to their garden over the holidays - remember that gardens need to be looking their best for judging in late November. plants might

Don't hesitate to give Kevin a call (or drop by) with any questions.

So .. remember .. locate garden .. get compost going .. soak and plant seeds (see first 5 pages of the garden resource booklet - **please refer to this booklet from time to time maybe even as a substitute for reading homework with the consent of the classroom teacher**)

Out of zone enrolments

For more information on the balloting process, and for a zone description, please visit our website www.matarau.school.nz. Application forms are available from the school office on request. Applications close 15 October. Ballot date is 20 October.

Scholastic Books

"SALE" issued closed today. We hope that your orders are back for us to issue before the end of term.

MARZ DVD's

... are being produced and sold for \$15 each... please see separate order form for details.

Lost property

As next week is the final week of term we would like to encourage parents to look through the mountain of lost property in the lost property bin by Room 10. Items unclaimed by the end of term will be donated to charities. Thanks.

Matarau School Fundraising Raffle 2010

Unfortunately time did not allow for these to be issued this week as anticipated, they will be issued next week.

All ticket butts, money and unsold tickets are required back at the school office no later than Wednesday 13th October 2010. If you require extra tickets to sell please contact the school office/Brenda to check availability. Thank you for your support with this fundraiser.

Trivia Night Update

With Trivia Night only 6 weeks away we are still seeking prize donations for the night - it doesn't have to be big or expensive. Something small and simple would still be great to include in our auction hampers...so please, anything you have to offer would be very much appreciated.

Trivia Night Meeting in School Staffroom at 7pm Monday 20th September for any parents wishing to come along.

Hatch Cup Hockey

James, Scott and Jonathan are selling sheep poo to fundraise for the Hatch Cup Hockey tournament. The bags are \$10 each. For orders please phone James at 4350373.

Community Notices

For Rent - 4 bedroom house, wet area shower, wetback fireplace, HRV, dbl garage, pets allowed. Owner going overseas. Available end of Sept for 12-18 months. Phone Naomi 4335775 or 02102676598.

For Rent - Carpeted, light and bright modern home for rent. 3x lg bedrooms. Walk-in pantry, plenty storage, $\frac{1}{2}$ size easy care section, sgl lockup garage, Dip Rd on the bus route from Matarau. Walk to Hurupaki sch. Avail Oct 5. Phone Hana 4350230 or 0274352786.

Northland Cricket Day - Junior registration day for Year 1-8 players, 10am Saturday 18th September in the Mark Cromie Holden Indoor Centre. Tim Southee will be at registration to sign autographs.

Hikurangi Kindergarten Fundraiser - A portrait sitting and a 10 x 13 quality portrait for \$10. 5 Park St, Hikurangi Sunday 17 October 2010. Phone Sharon on 433 8535 or text to 0276319361.

Whakapara Pony Club - If you are interested in horses then come along to our Opening Rally and find out all about Pony Club, Saturday 4th Sept, 12.30-3.00 Whakapara Pony Club Grounds, Hikurangi. All enquiries to Fiona Harkness 4337101 or Karen Frost 4334750.

Research findings on what really makes a difference to learning

Recent meta-research (research summarising a wide body of previous research in the field of education) is confirming that certain things make a bigger difference to learning outcomes than was previously believed. Each week we will share something that makes a bigger difference than was believed, and something that makes a lesser difference than previously believed.

	<u>Last week</u>	<u>This week</u>
Bigger difference than was believed	Students prior cognitive ability	Quality of instruction
Lesser difference than was believed	Team (specialist) teaching.	Behavioural objectives

Year 7 and 8 at Matarau School

- the findings on the table above provide a useful lead in to our senior school promotion.

From time to time we have enquiries from urban parents about our year 7 and 8 programme as an option for their year 7 or 8 child. The growth of Huanui College also indicates there is demand for high quality programmes and that people will transport their children some distance to find this. **As a consequence, we are planning to expand our year 7 and 8 programme next year.** While different schools suit different children, there is no doubt (**confirmed by a growing body of research, as well as anecdotal evidence**) that full primary schools can be the best option for many year 7 and 8 children. The track record of students entering secondary school from Matarau indicates these children **earn good class placements and are (on average) well ahead of their peers academically.** Visitors at the recent Regional Science Fair will have noticed that many of the outstanding prize winning secondary exhibits were produced by former Matarau students - **the methodology they used had been learnt in year 7 and 8** and re-applied while at secondary school. In short, it is important to understand that the year 7 and 8 programme at Matarau School is not just an extension of the year 6 programme. It is a **carefully designed programme intended to maximise the likelihood of success at secondary and beyond.** Our year 6 parents are encouraged to **think 2013 and not 2011** when planning these important years.

As part of our forward planning we are keen to gauge the level of **out of zone** interest in our senior programmes. **The attached flyer is for you to please pass to any person you think may be interested in further information on year 7 and 8 options.** When we have a feel for the exact level of interest we can then make some important resourcing decisions. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Final thought

Thank you for your support this term. While success at Science Fair and our recent School Production probably stand out as significant achievements this term, of no less importance are those little achievements that happen in classrooms every day as the result of the hard work of parents, children and staff. So .. have a well earned break with quality time with the kids. Travel safely. See you all again next term. No newsletter next week.

Final Final thought]

You might like to know that the fig tree that Ethan planted in our school orchard last year (which came from a tree planted by his great great great grandfather) is growing well and looking good.

Regards

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

**Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them**

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Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser

7pm Saturday 30 October 2010
Matarau School Hall

**Mr D (Scotty) will be our fabulous quizmaster again this year
with some great new question formats**

Thanks to the following companies who are sponsoring tables:

✂ Just Carpets & Vinyls Ltd ✂ K Fowler Homes (Northland) Ltd
✂ Clement Bobcats ✂ Shane Richardson Electrical

Tickets will be on sale at the office from
Monday 11 October
- \$20 per person

Get your table groups together (4-6 people per team)

Don't miss out on a fantastic night!!!